

Kingston Man Dies in Ice Fishing Accident

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The body of a 39-year-old Kingston resident who had been missing for four days was recovered by a state police dive team from the North Hill Marsh on Saturday.

Police were notified Friday afternoon that Paul Greeley had been missing for about three days. Family members knew he liked to fish and found his car near the North Hill Marsh, police said. They believe Greeley may have been ice fishing and fallen through the ice.

"We think he went out on Wednesday," said Deputy Fire



Chief DeLuca speaks to the media Friday evening after the first day of a search for a missing Kingston man.

Chief William Carrico. "One of his friends walked out in the woods and found his ice fishing gear out on the ice."

The search effort began in the town forest on Friday and continued into the evening despite pouring rain and darkness. Police and fire remained on scene with Plymouth County technical divers, state police dive units and two hovercraft boats, which were operating on the water in an attempt to locate the missing man. All terrain vehicles were used to comb wooded terrain through areas of the town forest.

"We found his jacket out in the water and it looked like someone had fallen through," said Carrico.

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Rescue workers and equipment from Carver, Halifax, Plymouth and Pembroke helped out with the search, but the ice and the darkness made for difficult conditions on Friday evening, Carrico said.

"Some of the hovercrafts

actually became disabled by the ice," he said. "Big chunks of ice went through the airbags and we ended up having to recover that equipment."

Around 5:30 p.m. on Friday, Police Chief Mark DeLuca addressed media awaiting word on the man's

whereabouts. He confirmed searchers were operating with two hovercraft boats and more than a dozen rescue personnel were involved in the search.

By the time state police divers got to the marsh, it was too dark and conditions were unsuitable for a dive, according to Carrico.

"On Saturday morning, the dive team located (Greeley) fairly quickly in eight feet of water," Carrico said. Greeley's body was recovered around 9:30 a.m.

An airboat from Bridgewater, similar to the hard-bottom gator boats seen in the swamps of Florida, was used in the rescue effort on Saturday morning and was more easily able to break through the ice than the hovercrafts were the night before.

Greeley's identity was not released until his body was found on Saturday.

The tragic incident pointed to the dangers of going out on the ice, especially alone, Carrico said.

"When people call and ask if there is any safe ice in town, I tell them that the only safe ice is at Armstrong Arena," he